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DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION SECRET	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. PRIORITY DDA 54765
TO INFO	Chief, EE Chief, EE COS, Germany: <i>[REDACTED]</i>		HEADQUARTERS FILE NO. <i>[REDACTED]</i>
FROM	<i>[REDACTED]</i>		DATE 10 May 1961
SUBJECT	<i>[REDACTED]</i> CMOC/UPHILL Operational Alois Anton BRUNNER possibly aka Dr. George FISCHER		RE: "43-3" - (CHECK "X" OND <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MARKED FOR INDEXING NO INDEXING REQUIRED
ACTION REQUIRED	HQS, Damascus and Beirut traces per paragraph 7.		INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ. DESK ONLY
REFERENCE(S)	<p>A. MINI 5482, 25 April 1961 B. <i>[REDACTED]</i>, 1 May 1961 C. DIA 37968, 3 May 1961 D. DIA 54517, 20 April 1961 E. NSDA 3774, 20 April 1961</p>		
<p>1. The names of Alois BRUNNER, former assistant to Adolf EICHMANN, and Dr. George FISCHER, a German refugee living in Damascus, have been tied frequently together, but we are not aware of any positive identification between the two. In view of recent information it seems appropriate to clarify this matter as already stated in Reference A.</p> <p>2. The principals involved are:</p> <p>a. Alois Anton BRUNNER <i>[REDACTED]</i> aka Anton Alois BRUNNER aka Adlatus BRUNNER possibly aka Dr. George FISCHER DOB: possibly circa 1918, Germany OCC: Former SS Major, assistant to Adolf EICHMANN</p> <p>who allegedly was hanged in Vienna in May 1946 following sentence by the People's Court (Soviet Sector).</p> <p>b. Dr. George FISCHER aka Otto FISCHER aka Dr. George SMITH aka G. RISCHER possibly aka Alois BRUNNER DOB: possibly circa 1914, Germany OCC: Businessman, Damascus, since circa 1947</p> <p>who is allegedly an ex-SD member and now an agent and advisor to the General Investigations Department of the Syrian Ministry of Interior (CID).</p> <p>3. The only evidence we have which would contradict the identity of these two is the alleged hanging of BRUNNER in 1946. However, if he was not then executed, but was in the hands of the Soviets, it raises the speculation that he might have become a Soviet agent. Further, if he is indeed FISCHER in Damascus, this may be one of the Soviet ties into the complex which has developed out of the <i>[REDACTED]</i> Schaefer entanglements.</p> <p>4. In favor of the identity of BRUNNER and FISCHER are:</p> <p>a. BRUNNER drops out of sight in 1946, but there are sporadic reports on an Alois BRUNNER in Austria until 1948.</p>			
<p>DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 382B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2002 2006 <i>[REDACTED]</i> CS COPY</p> <p><i>2/16/6</i></p>			
FORM 10-57 53b (46)	USE PREVIOUS EDITION. REPLACES FORMS SI-2B, SI-2B-A AND SI-2B WHICH ARE OBSOLETE	CLASSIFICATION SECRET	PAGE NO. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONTINUED <i>[REDACTED]</i> 1

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<p>b. Otto FISCHER appears about this time as a Bavarian refugee living in Syria and works with Franz RADEMACHER aka ROSELLO ([])</p> <p>c. <u>Der Spiegel</u> in 1960 alleges FISCHER in Damascus is BRUNNER.</p> <p>d. Hermann SCHAEFER makes the same allegation, although he and <u>Der Spiegel</u> are probably using the same source material.</p> <p>e. [] was told by RADEMACHER that FISCHER is BRUNNER; and if anyone in Damascus should know about FISCHER's background, it is RADEMACHER.</p> <p>f. UPHILL has mentioned that BRUNNER allegedly was in Cairo in late 1960 and early 1961.</p> <p>g. East German newspapers in April 1961 allege BRUNNER aka Dr. George SMITH is living in Damascus.</p> <p>5. During an informal discussion in March 1961 GLUECKRATH of UPHILL claimed that the grand council of the Egyptian SS group held meetings in Cairo in October and December 1960 and on 11 January 1961. The last meeting was attended by Fritz KATZMANN (Note: see Book Dispatch 1969, 2 February 1959: Frederick KATZMANN), Johannes von LEERS ([]), Alois BRUNNER ([]) and two Egyptian army officers, one a Major from the Egyptian IS and the other a Lieutenant Colonel from the Ministry of Information. Allegedly BRUNNER had a long list of Jews who had collaborated with the SS during the <u>Holocaust</u>, who are for the most part wealthy and now living in Europe, the United States and Canada. The council is now considering ways of blackmailing these persons for financial support, but if not successful, von LEERS reportedly would like to publish the list world-wide.</p> <p>6. An interesting aspect of the information in ERIN 3276 (see attachments) is that it reveals the to-be-expected East German interest in BRUNNER, but identifies him as Dr. George SMITH. Nonetheless, SMITH is almost certainly identical with Dr. George FISCHER, since both are linked to the same Damascus address. However, since FISCHER's name has been publicly tied to BRUNNER's in the past and certainly is no secret to the East Germans, one wonders how SMITH comes into the act. Secondly, does Hermann SCHAEFER ([]) who is suspected of having ties with the East, especially with the East Germans, have any connection with the intercepted letter (ERIN 3276)?</p> <p>7. Although traces on BRUNNER and FISCHER were requested in Reference A, please note that G. RISCHER and Dr. George SMITH should be considered as probable aliases of FISCHER.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">[] -</p> <p>Concur [] -</p> <p>Approved [] -</p> <p>2 Attachments</p> <p>A. Pert. Info on Fischer b/w</p> <p>B. Pert. Info on Brunner b/w</p> <p>Distribution:</p> <p>1. NR w/Atts A and B</p> <p>2. ER w/Atts A and B</p> <p>2. COS, Germany w/Atts A and B</p> <p>1. [] w/Atts A and B</p> <p>2. [] w/Atts A and B</p> <p>2. [] w/Atts A and B</p>		

PERTINENT INFORMATION ON FISCHER

1. ECPA 18713, 25 October 1957: Otto FISCHER is from Bavaria and has been living in Syria since 1947. He works with RADEMACHER aka ROSELLIO (Note: []). Franz RADEMACHER aka F. Bartolome ROSELLIO).

2. ECP 2517, 12 November 1957: Otto FISCHER is a Bavarian refugee who has lived in Syria about 10 years. His economic situation is not very good and he is cautious about discussing his business activities. He is a contact of RADEMACHER.

3. Book Dispatch 1069, 2 February 1959: lists Otto FISCHER, a Bavarian refugee living in Syria, as a contact of RADEMACHER.

4. NSDA 3507, 27 June 1960: Damascus asks for traces on the following ex-SD personalities now living in Damascus, whom [] states are frequently employed as advisors and agents by the General Investigations Department of the Ministry of Interior (GID). They collaborate closely with [] Franz RADEMACHER, Adlatus BRUNNER, from WITZKE, and Dr. (fmu) FISCHER. It described "Dr. (fmu) FISCHER (possibly Georg), age 46, as an associate of Dr. Said IMAM, age 56, a Syrian in a commercial office in Damascus.

Dr. [] has been a long time collaborator with German services before and during WWII. (Note: IMAM is []). fmu WITZKE is []

5. NSDA 3507 also forwarded as an attachment a copy of an article from Der Spiegel, issue Nr. 23 of 1960, which deals with Adolf EICHMANN. Pertinent extracts on FISCHER are: In Damascus there is an import-export firm called "Kathar Office" at Rue George Haddat 22. Its business manager is "Mr. FISCHER", who wears a small moustache, speaks perfect German, and whose passport is in the name of "Dr. Georg FISCHER". In reality he is Alois BRUNNER and was a trusted helper of Adolf EICHMANN. He was active in the final solution to the Jewish problem program during WWII in France and Greece. Adlatus BRUNNER (Note: evidently the same man, although both names appear in the article) along with EICHMANN and other went to Syria after the war via Rome with the help of Fascists in Italy who had survived the war's end. Early in 1959 BRUNNER was operating an import firm "Kathar Office" which he had founded sometime earlier in Damascus.

6. NSDA 3515, 11 July 1960: Toma aka Toma ROSELLIO aka RADEMACHER and Dr. George FISCHER are both known as ex-SD members and are employed as agents and advisors of the Syrian GID. Both interviewed [] in mid-1960 shortly after his arrival in Damascus.

7. NSDA 3531, 25 July 1960: [] was told by RADEMACHER aka ROSELLIO that Hermann SCHAEFER had arrived in Damascus in early 1959 and became associated with a group of German refugees, among whom was Dr. (fmu) FISCHER aka BRUNNER, a former SD member and assistant to Adolf EICHMANN.

8. ESDW 1875, 12 August 1960: same info as in "1" and "2" above.

9. EOMA-52089, 16 November 1960 (also attachment B to EOMA-52396, 6 December 1960): [] reports that Kurt WITZKE (Note: certainly [] is an agent of SCHAEFER (Note: Hermann SCHAEFER []) and is charged with watching FISCHER's every step in Damascus and reporting when he travels to Beirut.

10. Attachment F to EOMA-52396, 6 December 1960: [] reports that Egon HEYMANN, a German journalist (Note: UPHILL has admitted contact with the latter) visited Georg FISCHER who lives at Georg Hadda Nr. 22/7, Damascus, on 14 November 1960. He claimed to have been referred to FISCHER by Hermann SCHAEFER, and made numerous remarks about SCHAEFER to FISCHER.

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<p>11. Attachment to EOMA-52780, 28 December 1960: from [] report. Hermann SCHAEFER first made himself suspicious in ROSENTHAL's eyes when he said that he was seeking the former German co-worker of EICHMANN from the RSA, a certain Alois BRUNNER who had worked in France and Greece against the Jews. SCHAEFER knew from Bonn that BRUNNER, under the name of Dr. Georg FISCHER, was living in Damascus. Before his departure from Germany FISCHER had met with the CDU Bundestag member VOGEL (Note: probably Dr. Rudolf VOGEL, DPOB: 18 April 1906, Beuthen, Germany). VOGEL had worked with BRUNNER in Greece against the Jews and this had been reported to [] by Bonn. VOGEL tried to buy FISCHER off with 300 DM which FISCHER refused. Allegedly SCHAEFER wanted to start a press campaign against MERTEN (Note: Dr. Max MERTEN, DPOB 8 Sept 11 in Berlin) who is a former <u>Kriegsverwaltungsrat</u> and who is now in Athens. (Note: as far as we know MERTEN is still in Berlin). To do this he needed a statement from BRUNNER about VOGEL in order to get VOGEL to start an attack against MERTEN. SCHAEFER was not successful in making contact with BRUNNER-FISCHER at this time.</p> <p>12. EOMA-14075, 3 April 1961, and EOMA-54517, 20 April 1961: G. RISCHER, P. O. Box 635, Damascus, Syria, in mail contact with Wilhelm BEISNER [] , Munich, Germany.</p>		

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PERTINENT INFORMATION ON BRUNNER

1. From The Final Solution written by Gerald Reitlinger and published by Valentine, Mitchell in 1953 in London, SS Major Alois Anton BRUNNER aka Anton Alois BRUNNER is described as Adolf EICHMANN's most successful Jewish deportation expert. In December 1942 he, whom EICHMANN had appointed to the emigration office, arrived in Berlin from Vienna. He is described as "looking like a Jew, small, ill-formed, delicate in health, with an expressionless face, but small, spiteful eyes, speaking in a monotonous voice which was seldom raised." He arrived 6 February 1943 in Salonic, Greece, from Vienna. From July 1943 until sometime in 1944 he was at Drancy Camp in France. On 25 September 1944 he was in Slovakia having been transferred there from France following the fall of Paris to the Allies. He was condemned to death on 21 May 1946 by the Volksgericht (Russian Sector) in Vienna, and supposedly hanged in May. (Pages 160, 206, 224, 371, 393).

2. From The German Intelligence Services, 1944:

BRUNNER, Hauptsturmfuehrer: "reported to have been in Abteilung IV B Sipo and SD" (Note: responsible for Jewish activity) and in charge of the concentration camp at Drancy until towards the end of 1943, when he was removed after a B. B. C. broadcast for fear of reprisals: described as brutal and a typical thug who is said on one occasion to have 'disinfected' Vienna."

3. EASW 652, 14 January 1954 cites a USPA intelligence report, #R-69-48 dated 4 August 1948 which lists a Dr. Alois BRUNNER as a former SD member stationed in Maribor, Yugoslavia, during the German occupation; was confined and later released by the Partisans. BRUNNER was reported to be living illegally in Graz and was submitting regular intelligence reports to Yugoslavia through Franz DRENOVAC of the Yugoslav News Agency TANJUG in Vienna. (Note: the original DOI for this item is 28 August 1947).

4. EASA 2606, 7 December 1953; a USPA G-2 file V-26839 dated 2 January 1952 lists a Dr. Alois BRUNNER as a member of the Israeli Intelligence operating in Austria. BRUNNER was a former SS candidate and a deputy of EICHMANN's in Vienna. His wife was employed by the Gestapo (presumably in Vienna). He has dark curly hair, blubber lips, and a large mouth, bony and vivacious. He was employed by a cheese factory in Fuerstenfeld, Styria, Austria.

5. NSDA-3507, 27 June 1960: Damascus requested traces on the following ex-SD personalities now living in Damascus.

a. RADEMACHER (Note: [])

b.. Adlatus BRUNNER, age 40, associate of EICHMANN. Disappeared from Damascus circa 1 June 1960.

c. (fmu) WITZKE (Note: [])

d. Dr. (fmu) FISCHER (possibly Georg), age 46, associate of Dr. Said IMAM (Note: [])

6. NSDA-3531, 25 July 1960: Damascus reported that [] had been told by RADEMACHER that Hermann SCHAEFER had become acquainted with Dr. (fmu) FISCHER aka BRUNNER, former SD member and assistant to EICHMANN and now living in Damascus.

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7. Attachment to EOMA-52780, 28 December 1960: in a [redacted] report Alois BRUNNER, former aide to EICHMANN, is identified by SCHAEFER as being identical with Dr. Georg FISCHER in Damascus.

8. EOMA-5276, 26 April 1961, and EOMA-68439, 26 April 1961: on 19 and 20 April 1961 East German newspapers carried a story about an alleged rally of 30 ex-SS types in Beirut in "early April" organized by BRUNNER who is living under the name Dr. George SMITH in Damascus. The articles were evidently based primarily on a news-report/propaganda type letter dated 30 March 1961 (and intercepted by CALLIKAN) from an unidentified East German reporter writing from Beirut to Ernst HARSCH, Chief Editor of the East Berlin tabloid Berliner Zeitung am Abend. This listed SMITH's address, as Rue George Haddad 22, Damascus.

FORM 53c 10-57 (40)	USE PREVIOUS EDITION. REPLACES FORMS SI-28, SI-28A AND SI-29 WHICH ARE OBSOLETE.	CLASSIFICATION S E C R E T	CONTINUED	PAGE NO. 2
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